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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

: Stephen M. MUELLER et al.

Group Art Unit: 2614

Appln. No. : 10/840,224

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 4, 2008, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on March 4, 2009, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Final Office Action in view of the herein contained remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this Response.